GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1864
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
MAINTENANCE OF SIKRI
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned `Fatehpur Sikri ki durdasha dekh nirash huye UNESCO pratinidhi` appearing at page-7 of `Navbharat Times` dated December 16, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; (

(c) the amount of funds provided by the UNESCO for renovations of Fatehpur Sikri alongwith the date on which such funds were provided; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a)& (b) Yes, Sir; however, the news item is incorrect. Deputy Director, World Heritage Centre alongwith a consultant to UNESCO visited Fatehpur Sikri and inspected important protected monuments and the site where a tourist facilitation centre and a parking lot are being contemplated. She only suggested that the development activities should not interfere with the integrity and authenticity of the World Heritage Site, which in any case are always kept in view.

(c) UNESCO has not provided any funds for renovation of Fatehpur Sikri.

(d) A long-term perspective programme has been drawn to take up requisite structural repairs, to develop the environs and a master plan has been drawn up to develop a shopping plaza, a car park, an interpretation and documentation centre.